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City Selects Artists for Public Art for Hillsborough Street Streetscape Project

The City of Raleigh's Public Art and Design Board has approved artists David Dahlquist and Justin Platts of RDG Planning & Design of Des Moines, Iowa, as project artists for Phase II of the Hillsborough Street Streetscape project.

The Public Art and Design Board's artist selection panel recommended the artists based on their demonstrated experience providing creative enhancements for streetscape elements in other cities.

A nationally recognized public artist and teacher, Mr. Dahlquist is a senior partner and leads the Dahlquist Art Studio as its public artist at RDG Planning & Design. His work ranges from free-standing sculptures to major architectural installations. His most recent work, "Tree of Life" in Omaha, Neb., has won several awards at national and community levels.

Mr. Platts is a landscape architect specializing in urban design with RDG Planning & Design. An award-winning designer and project manager, he has been involved in a variety of project types including master planning and design guideline development.

Mr. Dahlquist and Mr. Platts believe that "everything evolves from a compelling story, one that unfolds in layers throughout the design. We are especially sensitive to lighting, establishing tone and character, and the ambience and safety related to how a site changes from day to night," the two artists said.

The Hillsborough Street Streetscape project, Phase II, will modify Hillsborough Street from the existing configuration of a multi-lane undivided roadway section to a two-lane divided roadway with raised median from Gardner Street to Rosemary and Shepherd streets. The project will improve usability of the corridor with a "complete streets" design approach to provide better access for traffic, cyclists and pedestrians. Modification of the streetscape is scheduled to be complete in the fall 2016.

Public art at selected City of Raleigh sites is authorized by the Half Percent for Art Ordinance adopted by the City Council in 2009 and implemented by the City's Public Art and Design Board and the City of Raleigh Arts Commission.

The Office of Raleigh Arts supports and promotes the arts in Raleigh by administering the programs of the City of Raleigh Arts Commission and the City's Public Art and Design Board and supporting the Pullen and Sertoma arts centers. The Office of Raleigh Arts is part of the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department.

For more information, contact Kim Curry-Evans at 919.996.4688

Raleigh Claims Spot Among U.S. Best Cities For Jobs

NerdWallet, the free website that offers price-comparison tools to find savings on financial products, has issued its listing of the 10 best American cities for job seekers. Raleigh earned the sixth spot on the list. Charlotte came in fifth, placing two North Carolina cities on the list.

Texas put three cities in that stratum: Austin in first place; Fort Worth coming in third; and San Antonio rounding out the top 10. Others making the cut are: Washington, D.C., in the runner-up position; Denver placing fourth; Omaha, Neb., taking seventh; Minneapolis being eighth; and Oklahoma City claiming the ninth slot.

NerdWallet crunched the numbers on the data for the nation's 50 largest cities derived from the answers to the following three questions. Are Jobs Available? Is the city growing? Can you afford to live there?

NCDOT Wants to Hear from You Regarding Local Transportation Priorities

The N.C. Department of Transportation wants to hear from North Carolinians regarding their transportation priorities as part of its efforts to implement the state's new Strategic Transportation Investments law.

Signed into law by Gov. McCrory last summer, House Bill 817 "Strategic Transportation Investments," overhauls the way North Carolina funds transportation improvements, allowing NCDOT to make more efficient use of its existing revenues to fund more investments that improve the state's transportation infrastructure, create jobs and help boost the economy.

The law establishes the Strategic Mobility Formula, which uses a data-driven approach to provide more flexibility in funding transportation improvements on the statewide, regional and division level with the goal of meeting the state's top priorities while still addressing individualized local needs.

In the coming weeks, each of the 14 NCDOT Transportation Divisions across the state will submit its top transportation priorities to compete with other transportation improvements across the state for funding under the new formula. To help determine these priorities, each division is asking local residents to provide their thoughts on which transportation improvements are most important. Projects can be as large-scale as an interstate improvement or as small as a new turn lane or traffic signal, and can be for any mode of transportation, including public transit, bicycle/pedestrian, ferry, aviation and rail.

Residents can take part in the process by making their suggestions during a 30-day public comment period from Tuesday, Jan. 14 through Wednesday, Feb. 12. Each Transportation Division will host a public open house to meet with local residents and obtain feedback regarding transportation priorities.

In Division 5, which includes Wake, Durham, Granville, Person, Franklin, Vance and Warren counties, the open house will be from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at the division office, 2612 North Duke Street in Durham.

In addition, written comments can be submitted via email at jhopkins@ncdot.gov, or regular mail at STI, NCDOT Division 5, 2612 North Duke Street, Durham N.C. 27704. All comments must be received by 5 p.m. on Feb. 12.

More information about the Strategic Transportation Investments law and how it works, and the public meetings can be found on the NCDOT website.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Joey Hopkins at (919) 220-4600 as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Raleigh Among Milken's Cities Driving The Future

Technology and energy are driving the nation's economy and hubs of these industries are ladled liberally throughout the Milken institute's 2013 rankings of America's best performing cities.

The Raleigh-Cary Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) placed 13th in the listing. Noted were the area's educated workforce, universities and low operating costs for businesses. "The city has experienced an expansion in the tech industry, fueling growth in a number of other areas. Recently, financial services firms like Fidelity Investments and Credit Suisse have built bases in the area, as well as MetLife, which has plans to build a new global technology services hub," the magazine offered as its reasons for the area's high placement on the list. The top 15 MSAs are as follows:

1. Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos, Texas – Homegrown companies such as Dell, National Instruments and Flextronics complement incoming companies such as Apple and IBM. The City's "extremely business friendly" features include low taxes and a low regulation environment.
2. Provo, Utah – Posting the nation's top job growth in 2012, Provo is home to software company Novell, Brigham Young University and is one of three U.S. cities with Google Fiber.
3. San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood City, Calif. – Entrepreneurs and technology companies are moving from Silicon Valley to the city proper, boosting housing costs and the construction industry.
4. San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, Calif. – Rising housing and business costs booted this MSA from the top spot it held in last year's listing. However, The Milken Institute found the area to remain "the most impressive technology neighborhood in the world."
5. Salt Lake City, Utah – the Utah Science Technology and Research Initiative is a bona fide leader in technology-based development. Combine this with the recruitment of numerous financial services firms (including Goldman Sachs) and you have the nation's fourth highest rate of job growth.
6. Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, Wash. – The stunning demand worldwide for new commercial aircraft has stoked this area's aircraft manufacturing sector, adding 7,000 high-skilled jobs from 2011 to 2012. Both Amazon and Google broke ground in 2013 on massive new campuses in the Emerald City.
7. Dallas-Plano-Irving, Texas – Strong technology, aerospace, telecoms and financial services give Dallas one of the most diverse economies in the nation. This is keeping both population growth and housing sales perking.
8. Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, Texas – Oil and gas exploration, especially Shale gas exploration are creating jobs in this area. Multiple companies are building export terminals, fractionators (fracking equipment) and ethane crackers in the MSA.
9. Boulder, Colo. – Ranking first in the country for density of high-tech startups, Boulder also is the site of strong operations for IBM, Level 3 Communications and Oracle. It also is the home of the Buffaloes.
10. Greeley, Colo. – Niobrara shale has made Greeley a 21-century boomtown. In addition to the natural gas and oil boom, wind energy is hot. Vestas Wind System is expanding its Greeley

workforce and Noble Energy is expected to invest another \$8 billion in the town over the coming five years.

11. Charleston-North Charleston-Summerville, S.C. – Boeing is converting this MSA into an aerospace hub. The state also is improving the historic port's infrastructure to allow for larger container ships.
12. San Antonio-New Braunfels, Texas – A nationwide restructuring of military bases could lead to more jobs for this area. In addition to its medical and military strengths, San Antonio is home to Eagle Ford Shale, the largest oil and gas development in the world.
13. Raleigh-Cary, N.C.
14. Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro-Franklin, Tenn. – Increases in automobile production have further boosted the area's economy with its solid foundation built on the historic and growing ever stronger tourism industry.
15. Denver-Aurora-Broomfield, Colo. – Denver's attractive business climate and friendly government have helped establish bastions for telecommunications, aerospace, manufacturing and energy research. The City's Business Incentive Fund will bring in more than 1,600 jobs and \$6 million in direct fiscal benefit over the next five years.

City Crews to Collect Storm Debris with Yard Waste Collection

Last weekend's severe weather resulted in storm debris for many Raleigh neighborhoods. City residents are encouraged to put storm debris at the curb on their normal day of collection.

Residents with larger amounts of debris from the storm such as uprooted trees and broken limbs will need to call the Solid Waste Services Department's Code Enforcement at 919-996-6874. Calls will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

For timely and efficient collection service, and to prevent injury to City employees, follow these guidelines for regular yard waste collection:

To set out yard waste loosely:

- Logs and limbs must be smaller than six inches in diameter and less than five feet in length;
- Stumps and rocks will not be collected; and
- Tie limbs and brush into bundles of not more than five feet in length, 18 inches in diameter and weighing no more than 75 pounds.

To set out yard waste in containers, use one of the following:

- a container with lifting handles, such as a plastic or metal garbage can. The container must be no larger than 35 gallons and must weigh no more than 75 pounds when full;
- biodegradable paper bags or clear plastic bags;
- Limit the number of bags set out for collection to 15.

Place yard waste at the curb no sooner than 12:00 p.m. on the day before your service day and no later than 7:00 a.m. on the day of collection. Remember that garbage and recycling carts are

for garbage and recycling only. Yard debris is transported to a separate facility from garbage or recyclable materials.

If you have more yard waste than is allowed for regular collection, call Raleigh Solid Waste Services at 919-996-6890 to schedule a special collection. There is a charge for this service.

Raleigh residents may also take yard waste to the City's Yard Waste Recycling Center, located at 900 N. New Hope Road. There is a cost for this service. The Yard Waste Center is open Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about yard waste collection in Raleigh, please call Raleigh Solid Waste Services at 919-996-6890 or visit the www.raleighnc.gov

Council Approves Adjustments to Rock N Roll Marathon Route

On Sunday, April 13, a novel combination of live musical performances and a marathon road race will take to the streets of Raleigh. In spite of the convergence of live entertainment, road closures associated with a 26.2-mile race, and Palm Sunday, organizers assured the Raleigh City Council on January 7 that they expect a smooth event. The Raleigh City Council approved adjustments to the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon race in order to accommodate church services.

With the inclusion of live music performers at various stops along the race course, the organizers of the race also assured the Council that the concerts would not be intrusive to nearby residents.

Under the new route, runners will start on S. Salisbury Street between Davie Street and Cabarrus Street.

For more information contact Derrick Remer at 919.996.4657.

Housing In Future Raleigh

Housing In Future Raleigh - Jan. 22 Session Explores the Options for Capital City Housing in the Near Future

Does it matter if housing in future Raleigh lacks a range of choices? What are Raleigh's housing development and redevelopment patterns going to look like? Will Raleigh be able to maintain a mix of housing choices and options at different prices?

These questions about one of the most basic of human needs – housing – will be examined Jan. 22 as part of the City of Raleigh Urban Design Center's Education Forum. The forum ponders what Downtown Raleigh might be in 12 years.

The Downtown conversations are held at the City of Raleigh Urban Design Center, 220 Fayetteville St. (in the City of Raleigh Museum), from noon to 1:30 p.m. through June 18. The public is invited to attend these free presentations.

The following is the lineup for the presentations:

Is Housing a Choice? – January 22

Gregg Warren, DHIC, Inc., and Roland Gammon, White Oak Properties and DHIC, Inc. board member, build a compelling presentation asking: What are our housing development/redevelopment patterns going to look like? Will we be able to maintain a mix of housing choices and options at different price points? Does it matter if we don't have a range of housing choices?

Stormwater in Raleigh: Time for an Upgrade? – February 5

Kevin Boyer, engineer, Water quality Group, City of Raleigh Stormwater Utility Division, will explore: how Raleigh and other cities have managed stormwater; why stormwater is important; and what are the incentives to change our stormwater management?

Back to the Future in Raleigh—February 12

Eric Lamb, transportation planning manager for the City of Raleigh, will present a driving presentation asking: How people will move in the city of tomorrow? How will the evolution of technology change travel needs? Are there existing places in the world where we can glimpse the future today?

Ten Years Out: How Shall Downtown Living Be for Children, Families and Elders? – March 19

Anne S. Franklin of the Downtown Living Advocates, spans the ages asking: What do today's middle school students have to say? Will aging in place for seniors be a viable option? What will parents of preschoolers want?

Population Growth, Sustainability and the Need for Urban Green Space – April 23

Danesha Seth Carley, PhD., assistant professor in North Carolina State University's Department of Crop Science, queries "are many more people and a cleaner Earth possible": Is there a place for "green space" in the city of the future? How can we increase and protect our green space and what value does that bring to our community? How will the city feed itself in an era of diminishing resources and an ever increasing carbon footprint?

Downtown: An Engine for Wake County's Tourism Strategy—May 21

David Diaz, CEO of the Downtown Raleigh Alliance, and Julie Brakenbury, director of services for the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, offer a welcoming look into: The role of a downtown in attracting visitors. What are Downtown Raleigh's key strengths and challenges as a center for tourism? How does the Visitors Bureau quantify the economic impact of Downtown Raleigh's tourism assets?

The Future of Solid Waste Management in Raleigh – June 18

Bianca Howard, community education specialist for the City of Raleigh's Solid Waste Services Department, digs into what we will be throwing away, asking: What will we consider waste in 2025? What will waste collection look like? How can we manage materials

to capture their economic value and reduce environmental pollution?

For more information on the Education Forums, contact Beth Nooe at beth.nooe@raleighnc.gov or 919-996-4635.

Bicycle Pavement Marking Design Meetings

Get involved! The City of Raleigh received a \$1.1 million dollar grant from the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program to construct at least 27 miles of marked, on-road bicycle facilities. A proposed list of twenty-two bicycle projects have been selected in order of adopted bicycle plan priority and previously adopted CIP projects. The design of these projects is currently underway and the lead consultant is Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. joined by Alta Planning + Greenways, Inc. and Kittelson & Associates, Inc.

Four meetings are scheduled during the last week of January in which you'll have an opportunity to review the projects and the impacts it may have on specific streets. Please note that there will only be one opportunity to view all projects at once on January 27. We hope to see you there!

Meeting Information:

All Projects

Monday, January 27 from 5-6pm, before the BPAC Meeting
Raleigh Municipal Building, Council Chamber
222 West Hargett Street, Raleigh, NC 27602

Five Points Meeting

Tuesday, January 28 from 4-7pm, presentation at 6pm
Five Points Center for Active Adults Ballroom
2000 Noble Road, Raleigh, NC 27608

Projects to be reviewed: Ashe Ave., Athens Dr., Cabarrus St., Dixie Trl./Lake Boone Trl., Fairview Rd., Gorman St., Hillsborough St.

Chavis Meeting

Wednesday, January 29 from 4-7pm, presentation at 6pm
John Chavis Memorial Park Media Center
505 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Raleigh, NC 27601

Projects to be Reviewed: Cabarrus St., East St., Garner Rd., Martin St., Tarboro St., Salisbury St., South Wilmington St.

Millbrook Meeting

Thursday, January 30 from 4-7pm, presentation at 6pm
Millbrook Exchange Park Room #2
1905 Spring Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC 27615

Projects to be reviewed: Durant Rd., Forest Pines Rd., Glen Eden Dr., Spring Forest Rd., Strickland Rd., Wakefield Plantations Dr.

For more information, contact Jennifer Baldwin at 919.996.2476

Raleigh To Honor Acclaimed Abstract Artist Jan. 23

Herb Jackson Tribute

The work and life of internationally acclaimed abstract artist Herb Jackson will be honored January 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Betty Ray McCain Gallery of the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts.

The public is invited to attend this tribute to the Raleigh native whose paintings have garnered acclaim throughout the world with one-man exhibitions in five nations and group exhibitions in six others, most notably the first exhibition of American Contemporary painting in the Soviet Union in 1989. His works grace more than 100 museum, corporate and private collections.

Mr. Jackson's Veronica's Veil Series will be on exhibit at the Betty Ray McCain Gallery from January 23 to February 26. The dozen 60-inch-by-48-inch acrylic on canvas paintings that comprise the exhibition, are a portion of the series that has been emerging for 34 years to become an eloquent study in the ethereal mystery that is and envelopes all life. The exhibition is courtesy of Lee Hansley Gallery.

"My inner journey through art confirms, for me at least, that it is not necessary to rob life of its mystery in order to understand it," Mr. Jackson is quoted in describing his work and inspiration. In addition to being a preeminent artist, over the decades Mr. Jackson has been a passionate, committed mentor, serving on the art faculty of his alma mater, Davidson College, since 1969. He has been the head of the Art Department since the early 1980s.

A list of a very few locations that display Mr. Jackson's work includes the British Museum, the Chicago Art Institute, Lisbon's Gulbenkian Museum, the Library of Congress, Boston's Museum of Fine Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and the North Carolina Museum of Art from which, as a teen, Mr. Jackson won his first award in a juried exhibition. His work also is proudly displayed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from which Mr. Jackson received a Master's degree in fine art.

Mr. Jackson was educated in Raleigh at Sherwood Bates Elementary School, Daniels Middle School and Broughton High School. "I have fond memories of them all," he said.

The Betty Ray McCain Gallery is open to the public during performances at the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts. Ms. McCain has a lifetime of service to North Carolina, including a stint as Secretary of Cultural Resources between 1993 and 2001.

Cage the Elephant to Appear at Red Hat Amphitheater's

Free Concert May 2

The rock group Cage the Elephant will headline a free concert at the Red Hat Amphitheater on Friday, May 2, it was announced today. The band's new track, "Come a Little Closer," is No. 1 on both the rock and alternative music charts. Also scheduled to perform at the free concert are indie rock bands Foals and J Roddy Walston and The Business.

The Red Hat Amphitheater is hosting the free concert to celebrate the second anniversary of Red Hat Inc.'s sponsorship of the Downtown concert venue. Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source software solutions. The company sponsored a free concert at the amphitheater last year after moving its headquarters to Downtown Raleigh in 2013.

As was the case last year, the May 2 free concert will take place during the First Friday events Downtown. No tickets will be required for the concert. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the show will begin at 7 p.m. Seating will be general admission.

"We're pleased to host another free concert at the Red Hat Amphitheater in Downtown Raleigh," said DeLisa Alexander, executive vice president and chief people officer at Red Hat Inc. "We look forward to the show and hope to see a great turnout from the community!"

Follow the City of Raleigh on Twitter



Looking for the most up-to-date information from the City of Raleigh? Follow your local government via Twitter! Twitter is a free services that allows you to "follow" people or subjects via short, frequent updates.

The City of Raleigh now offers Twitter users the opportunity to stay informed about the latest news and breaking events.

Currently, the City maintains the following accounts:

RaleighGov - This feed features links to any news releases and alerts issued by the City of Raleigh;

RaleighBPAC - This feed features information from the City of Raleigh Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission;

RaleighParks - This feed features news and information related to the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department;

RaleighPlanning - This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Planning and Development Department;

RalCommServices - This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Community Services Department;
RW911 - This feed features traffic accidents reported to the Emergency Communications Center;

RaleighGoGreen - This feed features news and information from the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department Recycling program.

RalPublicArt - This feed features information about the City of Raleigh Arts Commission Public Art Program.

To follow any of these, simply choose "Find People" from your Twitter home page and type in the account name you are interested in and then click "follow." It's that easy.

Follow the City of Raleigh on Facebook



City of Raleigh - The main City of Raleigh Facebook page keeps you informed about events, holidays and other news items.

City of Raleigh Planning and Development - The Raleigh Planning and Development page provides guidance for the growth, preservation and development of the City of Raleigh in order to maintain a community of lasting value.

City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department - Keep with news and information from the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department.

Community Services Department - The Community Services Department Facebook page posts a variety of community and neighborhood news, stories, awards, classes and Citizen Advisory Council information.

Emergency Communications - The Raleigh-Wake County 911 Facebook page posts information on job openings, public engagement and other 911 related happenings.

Raleigh Police Department -The Raleigh Police Department Facebook page focuses on public safety. Posts concerning crime alerts, missing people, requests for citizen assistance and more.

Raleigh Public Art - Raleigh Arts Commission's Public Art program is an essential building block for the creation of engaging, imaginative spaces throughout the city. Department Facebook page posts a variety of community and neighborhood news, stories, awards, classes and Citizen Advisory Council information.

Emergency Communications - The Raleigh-Wake County 911 Facebook page posts information on job openings, public engagement and other 911 related happenings.

Raleigh Police Department -The Raleigh Police Department Facebook page focuses on public safety. Posts concerning crime alerts, missing people, requests for citizen assistance and more. Raleigh Public Art - Raleigh Arts Commission's Public Art program is an essential building block for the creation of engaging, imaginative spaces throughout the city.

Traffic Alerts

For more City of Raleigh News and Updates on Road Closures, Parades and Road Races, visit the City's website at www.raleighnc.gov.

Street Closings

First Friday Closings

On First Friday of each month, from 6 p.m. to midnight, the 00 block of Hargett Street between Fayetteville Street and Wilmington Street will be closed. This closure will also include the south side sidewalk of the block.

February 8 Traffic will be affected from 7 a.m. until noon for a road race downtown. The 2000 block of Hillsborough Street between Enterprise Street and Pullen Road will be closed from 4:30 a.m. until noon. At 8:30 a.m., runners will assemble on the 2100 block of Hillsborough Street. They will turn left on Boylan Avenue, right on Tucker Street, left on West Street, right on Peace Street, right on N. Wilmington Street, left on Polk Street, left on Person Street, left on Pace Street, left on Blount Street, right on Peace Street, left on West Street, right on Johnson Street, left on St. Mary's Street, right on Hillsborough Street and return to the starting line.



Don't miss your chance to skate at Raleigh's real-ice outdoor ice rink open through Feb 1. | City Plaza on Fayetteville St.

www.RaleighWinterfest.com

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